PELPUP NEWS

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Pelham Puppets

Marlborough, Wiltshire

LETTER FROM "PELPOP"

THE PELPUP CLUB,
MARLBOROUGH,
WILTSHIRE.
August, 1965.

Dear Pelpups,

I hope you are having a wonderful holiday. If you remember to wear your badge you have more chance of meeting other members and making more friends. A puppet production is a group activity—it is the combined effort of a number of people. A good leader is needed and he, or she, should be the producer. This is why puppetry can be developed so well in schools, provided the staff are enthusiastic too. Some schools bring puppetry into their school syllabus and of course provide the necessary equipment, space and time for practice. Puppetry is one of the oldest and most traditional arts in the world and I feel it should have a place in all schools. If you are at a school where there are no puppet activities, why not be the pioneer puppeteer! Gather a small group of supporters together and form a club. I suggest you get the right master's (or mistress's) permission and quite possibly they will encourage it. A very good way to fire enthusiasm is a visit by a professional puppeteer. If your school is interested I may be able to put them in touch with the nearest puppeteer whom I can recommend.

Owing to the increased postage charges, printing cost and wages we are having to change the subscription charge for the club. As it is, the 2/6d. barely covers the postage on correspondence over the years a member remains in the club, and the magazine, which is by far the biggest cost, is not covered at all. Therefore as from the beginning of next year we are going to make a charge for the magazine. At the same time we will put the subscription for life membership (which will now only entitle members to the badge and, of course, help and advice from me) down to 1/6d. If you want a magazine it will have to be paid for at 1/3d. a copy (which is what it costs to print). This will ensure the magazine goes out to only those who really want it.

You will all get your Christmas magazine anyway, and in it and all subsequent magazines there will be a slip for you to fill in and send with a Postal Order for 2/6d. for the next two magazines, or if you would prefer to send 10/- for a five-year subscription you may do so. In turn I will see that the magazine gets livelier and more interesting so as to make sure you will want to continue your subscription.

The play-writing competition (first prize two puppets) has been won by Martin Dawber for "The Dragon Who Wanted to be Different." Second prize, one puppet, goes to Peter Farley for "Once Upon a Time."

You will be glad to hear that the Photographic Competition will be on again for the Christmas magazine. The photographs already sent in will be kept and entered for this competition. For the benefit of new members who have cameras, the competition is for the best picture of your puppets. Prizes of puppets to the following values will be given—First prize 55/6d., Second prize 37/6., Third prize 27/6d.

At the time of writing I do not know whether we shall be able to include all the requests for pen friends—there are certainly many more than ever before. The best way for you to get a pen friend is to write to someone already on the list. If you are unsuccessful in obtaining one that way, then you could ask to be put on the list.

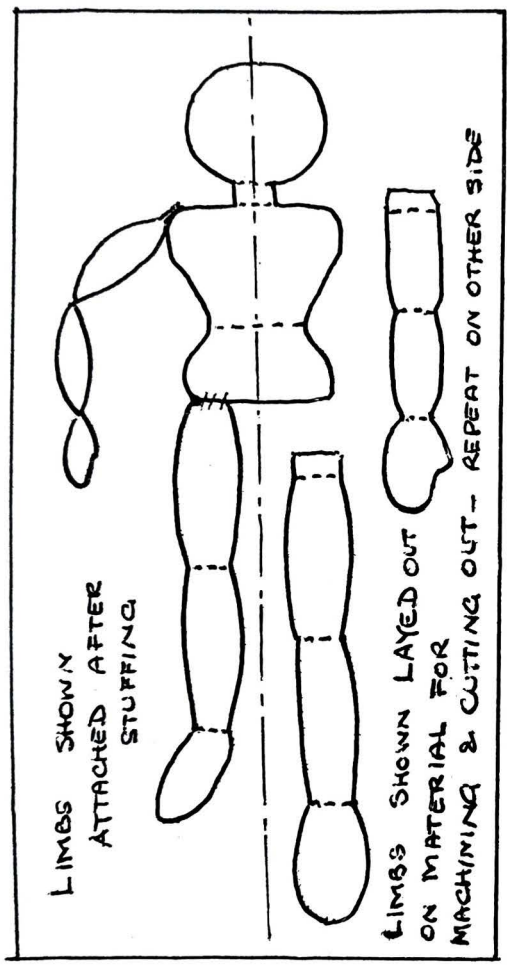
Please put your name and address at the top of your play (not on separate pieces of paper or accompanying letter).

Good luck. Yours puppetually,
PELPOP.

HOW TO MAKE A CLOTH PUPPET

A cloth puppet is very easy to make. This method should appeal particularly to girls. It helps considerably if a sewing machine is available, but with patience and time to spare the whole puppet could be hand-stitched.

For the purpose of these instructions I will assume you have a sewing machine. Start by drawing the outline of the body of the puppet on some white cloth which has first been doubled and pinned together. Draw the head and body all in one piece and the limbs separately. In order to get the right proportions it would be as well to draw the figure out first on some paper. The body should be simple in shape and the head almost round. Machine round the head and body leaving a gap at the top of the head for the stuffing. Then machine round all the limbs, leaving the top ends open. Then cut all out keeping fairly close to the stitching. Before turning each piece remember you will have to snick the seams on the inward curves, i.e. at waist and neck in particular, in order that they should turn inside out neatly, which is then the next job. Press them flat, then mark position of joints. This will help you to put the correct amount of stuffing in the limbs.

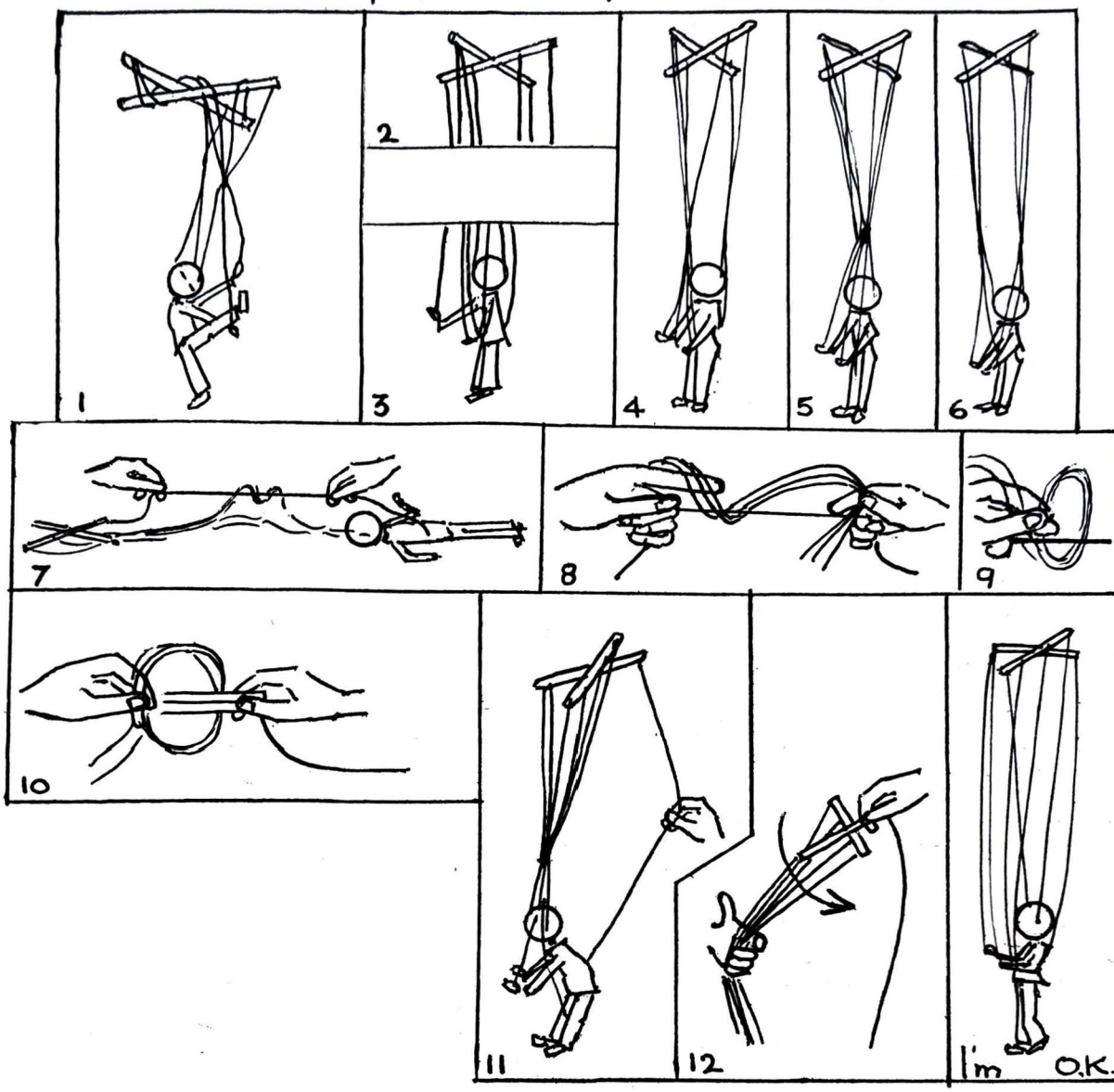


You can buy cheap (unmedicated) cotton wool from Boots the Chemists in a large packet. This is ideal for the purpose. Push the wadding down to fill the bottom section in each case and machine all joints immediately above. The tops of the limbs should be machined up when full and some extra material left for fixing to body, which is best done by hand stitching. The arms want to be stitched on quite loosely so they have freedom of movement.

At the waist joint there could be several rows of stitching so as to enlarge the gap and give more movement. The neck joint should be stitched along the shoulder line and where the neck meets the head, and some stuffing should be left in the neck. When you have stuffed the head it would be better to hand-stitch the gap at the top. In order to keep the foot facing forward either put some clear Bostik in front ankle joint, bend forward and hold, or hold foot in position and stitch to lower leg.

You can use buttons for the eyes or even teddy bear eyes pulled well in to give shape to the head. Eyebrows, mouth and nose, etc., can be stitched on in stranded cotton, or felt cut-outs just stuck on. Clear Bostik is very good for this purpose. Hair can be made from wool, rags, fur or felt. You should have no difficulty in stringing if you go by one of our puppets. The dressing I must leave to you; there are so many dolls' clothes about these days that I should think you could either make your puppet body to fit them or alter some you already have, provided they only require taking in.

The Simple Art of Untangling



Every now and again a puppet is bound to drop to the floor. Don't be worried—untangling is the simplest thing on earth. Just follow these instructions:—

Pick the puppet up by control and it may look like this (Fig. 1). If so, unhook all the caught-up strings on the control, push them off any way, it does not matter, until all the strings are hanging normally (Fig. 2). Then unhook any leg or arm that is caught up so the puppet hangs normally too (Fig. 3). Now it may look like Figs. 4, 5 or 6. Never mind, they are all the same once you know what to do. Lay the puppet on a table face down with the control outstretched (Fig. 7). Now take the back string (usually yellow) in each hand on either side of the tangle. Fig. 8 shows how you find the tunnel—it might only be a humped-back bridge if it is a simple tangle. In Fig. 9 you have the hoop of strings in one hand and in Fig. 10 you are passing the folded control through this hoop. It makes it easier still if you have a friend who will hold this yellow string taut for you while you find the tunnel. Then open control and you will find the yellow string clear of all the others (Fig. 11). Look closely and you will see that all the other strings are in a plain twist. Twist the control through the gap between yellow string and the rest (Fig. 12) once, twice or three times if necessary—make sure you are going in the right direction.

Suddenly it is all right! It's easy, isn't it?

LIGHTING

A show can be spoilt by bad lighting. It is particularly important to have ample lighting if you have a large audience. If you have too much you have the opportunity of reducing your lighting in some scenes to get contrast, whereas if you are under-lit you can make no changes.

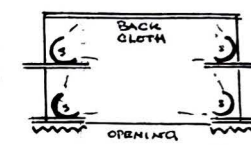
Dia. 1

A large stage naturally wants more lighting than a small one. For a portable stage I think those clip on goose-neck types with half shields are ideal (diagram 1). Two might be sufficient for a small stage the size of our lightweight theatre. It is not wise to use much over 60 watt bulbs in each as they tend to get too hot and if the puppeteer's arm happens to touch the shade his puppet is apt to take a leap!

For a more permanent stage (though they can be used in a portable role) I think the ordinary batten holders fixed to round wooden blocks are ideal. For a reflector an old cocoa or biscuit tin can be used, the fairly large sort, cut half of one side away leaving the whole of the bottom (diagram 2). Rub the edges with a file or bend them in and hammer flat. You will require about four placed as in diagram 3 for an average size stage. Make sure you leave room for the puppets to walk past them. If they are all wired in parallel (see your father or electrician about this) they can be controlled by one switch.

Dia. 2

It is quite easy to fix a coloured gelatine filter round the open side of the tin with strong elastic bands kept low down where the tin does not get so hot (diagram 4). Make sure you have some holes in the top of the tin. It is possible to get coloured bulbs, these may be handier to use than filters.



Dia. 3

A trough of batten holders can be assembled to go along the top, above the proscenium opening. Light from this position is very useful. If, however, the stage is not very large, they will get in the way, as the front of the stage is a busy area. In this case it would be better to use strip lights. They are about a foot long so use two or three according to the width of the opening. It is important to see that these lights do not stick out so that the strings of passing puppets get caught in them. If they do, run some sticky tape all the way along the front protruding edges.

Dia. 4

I think it would be better and simpler from an electrical point of view to have all your lights on one switch. This enables you to plunge your stage into darkness if you want to. If you want subdued lighting you can just unscrew a bulb or two.

Christmas tree fairy lights are very good for gay effect as part of the scenery, for example, to enhance a Christmas scene, or to be dotted round the scene of a fairground, or used as street lighting. They do not provide much additional light so if they are required only for this purpose all the bulbs would need to be clear.

Spotlights are useful for cabaret turns or wherever a performer requires prominent lighting. You can buy spotlight bulbs from an electrical shop—used mainly for shop window display. They are rather expensive but very good for large stages. A word of warning though—these really do get hot and not only the puppet will jump, the puppeteer will yelp if he touches one!

For a small stage a strong torch is quite effective and easier to handle. Possibly two or three could be used.

Other suitable forms of lighting for small portable stages are angle-poise or adjustable reading lamps with shades. For a more permanent stage it is a good idea to have a row of strip lights along the front of the proscenium (stage opening). They supply under-lighting which greatly improves vision from a distance. They also light up the curtains when drawn shut.

THE DRAGON WHO WANTED TO BE DIFFERENT

By MARTIN DAWBER

Characters: BABY DRAGON; MOTHER DRAGON; DAMSEL; KNIGHT; GIRL; KING; EXCHEQUER; HORSE.

SCENE I

Inside a small cave with a small window at the back.

CURTAIN

(MOTHER DRAGON *is seen waving through window and* DRAGON *is lying on the ground*)

MOTHER: Goodbye! Goodbye! Hmmm, I wonder who could have sent this.

BABY DRAGON: Maybe it's for me.

MOTHER: I don't think so. But it may be. I'll open it and see. (*She holds it up to the light*). Oh! I knew this would happen.

DRAGON: What's the matter, what's it all about?

MOTHER: The army want more dragons and they want you. You'll probably meet a Knight-Errant some day (*she starts walking around the room*) but what else can you expect? My husband, your father, had many a fine journey over the countryside before he met that St. George, and I'm sure what was good enough for your Father is good enough for you.

DRAGON: But I want to be different.

MOTHER: The very idea! And there's your food. Where am I to find fresh vegetables for you, I should like to know? I don't know what the world's coming to—different, indeed!

DRAGON: But you see, Mamma, I want to be different.

MOTHER: Hmmm, the very thought. You go down to the plains, my child, and you'll see if people want their dragons to be different. They're used to the old-fashioned kind, I can tell you. Be off with you and see for yourself.

DRAGON: Very well, Mamma. But you know, I do feel different (*he goes off right and Mother moves to the window and waves*). MOTHER: Goodbye! Goodbye! . . .

CURTAIN.

SCENE II

A wood with a girl tied to one of the side-screen trees.

CURTAIN

(*Enter* DRAGON).

DAMSEL: Oh, Dragon, I'm so glad you have come at last!

DRAGON: Anything to oblige a lady. But why?

DAMSEL: Because I'm the damsel, of course, and my father, the Duke, has tied me up here to wait for the dreadful dragon—that's you, of course—who has come down from the mountains to lay waste our country. And he's tied me so tightly that I'm beginning to have cramp.

DRAGON: Can I help?

DAMSEL: Well, that would hardly do, would it? What I mean is—now that you have arrived a Knight-Errant is certain to come along and rescue me, so I shall not have to wait much longer. Look! look! —through the trees there—I'm certain I saw the glitter of his armour. Here he is. (*Enter Knight-Errant, mounted, opposite to where girl is tied*).

DRAGON: Stop! And I mean it. What are you going to do with that?

KNIGHT: Do? Kill you, of course, and rescue the fair damsel. Do you think I'm doing this for amusement?

DRAGON: But I ought to explain. I'm not going to hurt the lady, so why should you want to kill me?

KNIGHT: But—but—but! What kind of a dragon are you?

DRAGON: I'm the dragon that wants to be different. For one thing I'm a vegetarian.

KNIGHT: Well, I never heard of such a thing. I've polished my armour, and tired my good steed, and come miles out of my way for the sake of a creature like you. I can't even tell the fellows back at the Palace about you—I should be the laughing stock of the Palace. Shoo—you stupid beast!

(*Dragon turns and exits*).

CURTAIN.

SCENE III

A garden with a wall at the back and in front a bench.
(*Sitting on the bench is a young girl. Enter* DRAGON. *Note: Girl is crying*).

DRAGON: What's the matter?

GIRL: It's my father (*sobs*). My mother is dead (*sobs*).

DRAGON: Well, do go on.

GIRL: My father has gone to marry a new wife (*sobs*) and I know that she will have two ugly (*sobs*) daughters (*sobs*) and they will be so unkind to me (*sobs*) and dress me in rags (*sobs*).

DRAGON: Have you seen her?

GIRL: No—of course not—but I'm sure that she will beat me and take away all my pretty things—and (*sobs*) what shall I do? I wish I were dead (*sobs*).

DRAGON: I wonder if I could help you. If you want to run away you can ride on my back to the nearest town, and there I'm sure someone will be kind to you and give you work to do. Do come—you can sit quite safely on the smooth part just behind my ears—but first please give me a mouthful of cherries, for I'm parched with thirst.

GIRL: Run away! What an extraordinary idea! What ever put that into your head? How do you suppose I am to meet the Prince if I am to run away?

DRAGON: What Prince?

GIRL: The Prince, of course. The Prince who is going to marry me. Have you never heard of my great-aunt, Cinderella, and all the other girls in my family? If I run away I shall never meet the Prince, and do you think I want to miss my splendid wedding, or have no chance to show my step-mother and my ugly sister what I think of them?—Cherries, you stupid thing! What kind of a dragon are you, asking for cherries?

DRAGON: I'm only—only a Dragon that wants to be different.

VOICE: Cinders, come here. I've someone to show you.

GIRL: There, I told you. Cherries—humph!
(*Exit the girl. Dragon is about to leave when it sees a notice on the tree. Reads aloud*).

DRAGON: "Wanted for exhibition purposes, Dragon used to quiet country life. Performances Wednesdays, Saturdays and Public Holidays. Applicant must be genuine fire-breathing. All home comforts. Apply to Lord High Keeper of the Back Door, Palace Yard." I must go off right away.

CURTAIN.

SCENE IV

Inside the Palace. (*Sitting at a table are the* KING *and* LORD EXCHEQUER. DRAGON *is standing in front of them*).

KING: Well, well well! So this is the latest applicant—you look rather shabby. Can you blow fire?

DRAGON: Yes, your Majesty.

EXCH.: It has been confirmed, your Majesty. He set the royal curtains on fire.

KING: He did what! We'll come back to that later. What did you think, Mister Chancellor?

EXCH.: If I might suggest it, your Majesty, an entertainment on these lines would be a great deal cheaper than the usual display of fireworks provided for your Majesty's birthday.

KING: Very true. But look here, Dragon, why have you only one head?

DRAGON: Your Majesty must remember the expense; two heads are dearer than one.

EXCH.: That's true, your Majesty.

KING: Well, you seem very suitable for the job. I want a dragon only for show—my people like to think that they can catch a glimpse of one through the trees when they are having a picnic in the Royal Parks. You will be on duty twice a week at certain places, and when people seem to expect it you can chase them, not too fast, until they seem to have had enough of you. I don't think there's anything more.

EXCH.: Don't make the babies cry, and if they offer you anything to eat, take it without snatching.

KING: Now—what about your wages? I'm a poor man as kings go, but I suppose I can hardly offer you less than the usual twenty head of cattle per day?

EXCH.: Your Majesty, your finances can't stand it. Can't you offer him something else—sausage meat or mince?

DRAGON: Your Majesty, you can give me anything—grass or hay! I am a vegetarian. I want only to be loved. You see—I'm a dragon that wants to be different!

KING: Different! Well, you're the dragon for me!

CURTAIN. THE END.

PRODUCTION NOTES.

Scene I.—The Mother Dragon if necessary can be made out of cardboard with a movable neck and mouth. The Baby Dragon can be the ordinary dragon.

Scene II.—The Knight can be made out of one of your puppet kits with a tin can for a body and all the rest painted silver.

Scene III.—The wall should be low enough to fit the Dragon's head over. There also should be a notice on the cherry-tree near the wall.

Scene IV.—In this, for the Exchequer just wrap any male puppet up in some velvet.

ONCE UPON A TIME

By PETER FARLEY

Cast: SOPHIA, a young girl. FIFI, a French poodle. THE WITCH. THE CATERPILLAR.

SCENE I. In the woods.

SOPHIA: What a lovely place, it seems enchanted.

FIFI: Of course it's enchanted.

SOPHIA (*turning to look at* FIFI): Did you talk, Fifi?

FIFI: Of course I talked. Any animal can talk in the "Enchanted Wood."

(*There is a flash*).

SOPHIA: What was that?

FIFI: What was what?

SOPHIA: That flash!

FIFI: Probably the old witch of the enchanted forest passing overhead. But don't call her "Old Witch" if you meet her. Call her Endora or she will turn you into a candle flame and blow you out.

SOPHIA: You mean to say there's an old witch in this wood and you haven't told me?

FIFI: Well, I can't talk unless I'm alone with you in the Enchanted Forest.

SOPHIA: Can you see a light just between those trees? A woodcutter must live there and he might know the way home.

SCENE II. Outside the Witch's house.

WITCH: Halloo, my dear.

SOPHIA: Oh, no! It's the old witch!

WITCH: You impudent little brat! Don't you know I don't like being called "Old Witch"? I shall turn you into a caterpillar.

SCENE III. Inside the Witch's house.

CATERPILLAR: Oh, I'm so miserable! Being a caterpillar isn't much fun.

FIFI: The witch has lighted a candle; as long as it burns you will have to stay a caterpillar.

CATERPILLAR: It won't be long before it burns down and goes out.

FIFI: Yes it will. It's a seven-inch candle and it only burns down an inch to a year.

CATERPILLAR: Where is the candle?

FIFI: In the alcove, under the window.

CATERPILLAR: Hmm. You know the bowl of water the witch gave you?

FIFI: Yes.

CATERPILLAR: Well, you could dip your tail into it and try and douse the candle.

FIFI: I'll try, but don't be too expectant.

SCENE IV. Same as Scene III.

CATERPILLAR: How did it go?

FIFI: I only singed my tail.

CATERPILLAR: But listen, I have a plan . . .

WITCH (*coming in*): There you are, you ugly caterpillar. Get off that floor. My broom's just swept it!

SCENE V. Same as above.

FIFI: Endora.

WITCH: Yes.

FIFI: I bet you couldn't make it snow inside.

WITCH: Yes I can.

FIFI: Go on then.

WITCH: All right, I will.

(*Snow falls*).

FIFI: Endora.

WITCH: What is it now?

FIFI: I bet you can't make the wind blow inside.

WITCH: Yes, I can.

FIFI: Go on then.

WITCH: All right, I will.

(*Wind blows*).

FIFI (*triumphantly*): The candles have gone out.

WITCH: Ahhhhh!

SCENE VI. Same as above.

SOPHIA: What happened to the old witch?

FIFI: The wind blew out two candles—one for the old witch and one for you. The witch is so old that she has probably turned to dust in front of the warm fire.

SOPHIA: And I suppose we shall both live happily ever after.

PRODUCTION NOTES.

Flashes can be made by blue lights quickly switched on and off.

Snow can be made by cut up tissue paper scattered over stage.

Wind can be made by the humming of several puppeteers.

PELPUP'S WRITE

ROY LISTER.—I have had a tape recorder for Christmas, and it came from Gamages. If Pelpups would be interested in buying a Mairs recorder like this one it is only 17 gns. They also sell good tapes very cheaply. Also I have bought a lighting set from Pollocks, which is really meant for a model theatre, but I find that they work well in the Puppet Theatre. They are priced from 1 gn. to 2 gns. A shop well worth visiting is Ifan Kyrle Fletcher's Theatrical Bookshop at 22 Buckingham Gate, S.W.1. He has a complete set of rare Sicilian Marionettes and the complete set of the Laughing Spider Puppets used by the Dutch Underground during the war with such characters as Hitler, Stalin, Churchill (complete with cigar) and 42 others. These are all very valuable.

IAN WILSON.—I have found a very good way of making my puppets pick up things—I just make a small hook out of a pipe cleaner and tie it to the puppet's hand and this enables the puppet to lift things up. My sister and I have made a small village that is in scale to the puppets and we act them in it and practice scenes in it which I find quite fun.

TONY ALLMAN.—My grandfather has given us a large shed and we have converted it into a theatre, with one half for the puppet stages and the other half for the audience.

SUSAN COX.—I have an idea of my own to make props, such as food. I cut out pictures from magazines and stick them on card, then put a small wedge on the back to stand them up.

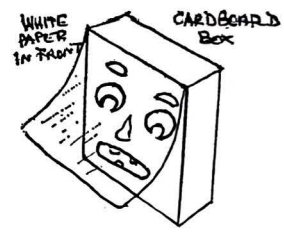
KEVIN and ROBYN WALSH, Virginia, U.S.A.—We made our marionettes too. We used old cub scout uniforms cut down for their clothing. We modelled their heads out of craytonite. Their bodies were made of pieces of wood and their feet were lead. We used rabbit hair for one scout's head, llama hair (from mother's ski hat) for another and the third puppet had beaver hair from an old fur collar.

MARY SMITH.—A curtain rail complete with runners is screwed under a shelf that is about 3ft. 6ins. high. The puppets are hooked on to the curtain runners by the hook on top of their control bar. They can be kept dust-free by putting them in a plastic bag secured around their strings by an elastic band.

MRS. J. TREASURE (for the Morley Players).—We had great fun designing scenery for the Dragon's lair, and my husband has fixed up a bank of coloured footlights, blue, orange and white bulbs so that we can get some interesting lighting effects. We also have two powerful side lights.

PAMELA COOK, Victoria, Australia.—A slogan for the Club: "If puppeteering is your game, 'Pelham' Puppets is the name."

CHRISTOPHER WEBB.—I thought you might be interested in an idea I use in my puppet theatre for an effect in a haunted house scene. Pinocchio and Jiminy Cricket enter and sit down facing the audience when suddenly they hear a voice (very deep and hollow) and a face appears behind them. The voice is produced by talking very clearly and quickly into a large glass bowl and then slowing it down on the tape recorder. The face is as diagram, the light can then be turned on and off to make the face appear and disappear. We recorded the complete sound track on tape and played and composed the music ourselves; it was great fun. I would like to know if there are any Pelpups in Southampton with whom I could get in touch. 63 Prince of Wales Avenue, Regents Park, Southampton.



IAN ALLEN.—If you are producing "The Haunted Hoard," for the scene of the dark cobwebby passage, to make cobwebs you just get a pair of Mum's old stockings and ladder them and pin them to your scenery. For the ghosts you can buy a sound effects record by His Master's Voice and many other sound effects records.

SUSAN SMITH.—I am in Class 2 at Bourne Junior School. We have formed a puppet club in our class and out of 43 children 28 own PelhamPuppets and several children have more than one. Altogether we have 60 Pelham Puppets and we think this must be a record for one class. Puppet Club is on Thursday afternoons and this is enjoyed by everybody. We usually have about six plays each week and these we make up ourselves.

BARBARA SMITH.—For a magician's trick, take a shoe box and cut it in half and place one puppet with its head out at one end and at the other put another puppet with its feet outside the box. The magician pretends to saw the box in half and then separates the two parts from each other. After this he pushes the parts together and one of the puppets steps out.

TIMOTHY OLIVER.—I have got some lights which can be dimmed from an old railway control and transformer.

HOWARD KRAMER, Salisbury Rhodesia.—My friend and I have been doing marionette shows for about two years. We have done many shows and earned over £50, of which £15 has gone to charity. We have performed to audiences of over 200 and have been on Television where we did a five-minute play. We have recently been on a hobbies' exhibition for a week and did nine shows. After these public performances we have been asked to do many shows and we even had

to cancel some as we were booked up. This coming Christmas holidays we have many shows and have also had to cancel some. My partner and I have well over 50 puppets between us. We have had a write-up in the newspaper of which I am sending you a cutting. We do most of our shows at children's birthday and Christmas parties. We have a fully equipped portable theatre; it is 8ft. x 8ft. The proscenium opening is 4ft. long and 2ft. high x 2ft. 3in. deep. We have four wing lights (220 volts) and three on the top batten (220 volts) and six footlights (12 volts). We use colour gelatine slides for coloured lights. We have a tape recorder, two record players and amplifier and a dimmer. We have many sets of scenery and props. We call our theatre "The Wooden Stars Marionette Theatre."

MICHAEL IPP, Cape Town, South Africa.—I am still with the Anderson Puppet Company and this Christmas we did "Sleeping Beauty" at the Hofmeyer Theatre (in Cape Town); it was quite a success, but not as much as the success "Pinocchio" was. As usual there was the variety show afterwards, but this was the same show as the one in September because Keith was too busy with little operations at the Little Theatre to make more puppets. Anyway the critics liked the variety show better and they said that "Sleeping Beauty" was too slow. I'm busy making puppets and sets for "The Wizard of Oz" and a variety show. Also I'm having a new theatre made 9ft. high, 12ft. long, 7ft. wide, with the stage opening 7ft. long, 4ft. high. The whole theatre will be raised one foot off the ground, the depth of the stage is 4ft., and it has a 9ft. long back bridge and two side bridges behind the wings which are in the book form (the wings). The structure will be portable and will be made out of girder-like structures (steel)—that's only the stage and proscenium. The bridges will be wooden boxes to carry puppets when touring. The lighting will not be so elaborate as we have to tour, e.g., two spots, 10 green floods, 10 blue floods, 10 red floods, two ultra-violets.

ERROL OFMAN, Salisbury, Rhodesia.—I will be sending you some pictures of my new theatre; it is 8ft. high and 8ft. wide and has two side wings 8ft. high by 4ft. wide. The whole front is hinged and folds up. The stage is like a folding table with folding ends and legs. Here is a good way of making hands for puppets—using pipe cleaners bind five together, preferably each doubled back. These form the basis for the five fingers. Weave more cleaners in between to form palm of hand. Now the puppet's hand can either be covered with thick felt or bound. Care must be taken not to get the fingers bulgy and the palm too fat. The fingers can now be bent into "expressive moods."

DICK NICHOLSON, Ontario, Canada.—I bought your ballerina puppet and found that if you drill a small hole through her toe and put a string attached to the control through this hole and tie it, this aids her performance. I thought other Pelpups might also find this useful. A friend, R. Bates, and I put on plays and variety shows at children's parties. We make $20 per show.

ARCHIE MCINTOSH.—My father built me a stage for my puppets and I have painted scenery. I have given quite a number of puppet shows, once appearing in public at the Town Hall. There I gave a play called "The Scotsman in Holland."

FRANCES COLBOURNE, Banket, Rhodesia.—I thought that if you had not enough money to buy more puppets and you are short of puppets, why not make them out of peanuts (monkey nuts); this is an easy way to make them.

RUSSELL BATES, Oshawa, Ontario, Canada.—My friend Dick Nicholson and I have been putting on puppet shows all over the city—at the Firehall for underprivileged children, at an Insurance Company, at St. Gregory's Auditorium and at United Auto Workers' Union. Dick and I made $41.00 each.

CHARLES HAYTER, Winnipeg, Canada.—When planning a variety show I always make a plan of it like this:—I divide a sheet of paper into three columns, one for the puppets needed, one for sound effects and records needed and thirdly one for scenery and props needed. I find this works very well. We have two amplifiers that disconnect from the gramophone and we put them on either side of the stage. For lights we use old Christmas tree lights. I shall be going to quite a few children's birthday parties to give puppet shows. I charge $2 a party. My puppet club is still going and I have changed the name to the Globe Puppet Company, after the first real theatre established in England.

SUSAN TAYLOR.—I found that if I tie a string on one heel of my puppet, through the back string holder and on to the other heel I can make them vault and leapfrog over a box much better than before. . . . If a dancer is wanted I found this and a piece of sticky tape round the knee joint help in performance.

GRAHAM ELLIS.—I am writing to tell you how well my society is getting on. We have got quite a few members already and we are going to start looking for a show for the summer season. This time we have decided to try to produce a science fiction play. We have just made ourselves a new switchboard and have three low voltage dimmers. Our lighting set consists of five floodlights, four overhead lights, one set of footlights and one spot. We are thinking of extending our stage to make more acting area.

ROSEMARY CHALLIS.—Myself and two friends who form the Star Theatre Club put on puppet shows every half-year in my house. In the winter we do a pantomime and in the summer a variety performance. Our house is ideal as we have a large through room, divided by curtains, comprising the lounge and dining room. The audience sit in the lounge and the theatre is on a level with the curtains, which screen off the dining room, which is the back stage area. This Christmas we very successfully performed Spencer Williams' "Sleeping Beauty" out of "Pelpup News" No. 5, along with "A Tale of Wags" from Joan Field's puppet book.

HELEN BURGESS.—I am writing to you on behalf of the Cross Hey Puppet Club. We have only three members but a company of 28 puppets, about half of them made from kits. We have performed three shows and are now working on variety, which is our first variety. We have used a recording of "The Black and White Minstrels" for our music in one song; the Witch sings to the Wizard "I was a good little girl till I met you." We have a fairly well equipped club room which is a spare room in my house; we meet every weekend and after a discussion we set to work making sets which range from the throne of a Martian to a statue from a royal palace garden.

COLIN JEFFREY.—I am going to tell you about my puppet shows. It all started about half a year ago—I was to give a puppet show for the Town Fete. It did not come off very well, it rained all afternoon so I did not get many people in to see it, but those who did see it liked it very much. The technical side was terrible; I switched on my tape recorder and "whoosh!" 250 volts went through me, and I saw yellow spots all day! My next puppet show was better than I hoped for; I was able to fathom how the lights worked (with a lot of searching) but—calamity—Bones the Skeleton fell out and got in one muddle. I was rushed for time so I had to do without him. My next two puppet shows were for my school party. I went to the first year party to give a puppet show when I found people crowding round my stage looking, and touching my puppets and ruining my stage setting, but I managed to get everything O.K. in time. I had a surprise in store for me; the teacher who was in charge of the second year party asked me to come to their party and give my puppet show again—it was a great success.

PHILIP GOBLE, Gibraltar.—I am just writing in to say that I have formed a club with my friend and brother. We are at the moment making a new show called the "Pineapple Expedition." We got the idea from a play in the book by Jan Bussell, but as we did not have the puppets we wrote a play like it. I have eight puppets and two of them are made from puppet kits. Soon we are starting a new play; we usually do our plays for the Hunger Campaign, selling tickets for a 1d. or 2d. each.

ROGER ARGUILE.—Ronald and I have performed at an Old People's Home, also for some spastic children and at a chapel concert. We performed in front of about 150 people at the chapel. We are shortly going to do our spring show in the garden.

CERI GRIFFIN.—Since the last time I wrote the Regency Puppet Theatre has produced two new musical pantomimes, "Cinderella" and "Red Riding Hood." The first, "Cinderella," was held last Christmas; this was not as successful as hoped but we made up with "Red Riding Hood." This was a tremendous success and I think that it is the best show that the Regency Theatre has held so far.

HOWARD KRAMER, Salisbury, Rhodesia.—We have just completed a very successful Christmas season. We earned over £60. Some of this is going towards the expansion of our theatre. Our main Christmas act was as follows: We had a cracker on the backcloth and a jack-in-the-box on stage. There was a bang and the baby dragon came out of the cracker. There was some music. The dragon fiddled with the lock on the box and a puppet jumped out and sang a Christmas carol. There were four puppets in the box. Santa Claus was last and he went off on a sledge. We are going on television soon and are doing a circus. Next appearance on television we will do a night club which will include my pop singer.

BERNARD COLE, 26/32 Clifton Street, London, E.C.2., would like to know of Pelpups living near him.

JULIE WIGGINS, Hr. Longford Farm, Nr. Tavistock, Devon, wants a girl pen friend in France age 11-12. Hobbies: judo, horse riding, ice skating and puppetry.

GAIL CHARLESWORTH, Woodside Farm, Sutton Weaver, via Warrington, Cheshire, would like to hear from Pelpups living in her area.

TREVOR GARNER, 28 Ouse Street, Goole, Yorks, would like a pen pal in the U.S.A. a boy aged about 12. Hobbies: cycling, reading and puppetry.

JENNIFER BARTON, 18 Carlton Ave., Wilmslow, Cheshire, would like a pen friend, boy or girl, in America or Canada, aged 14-15. Hobbies: all sports, pop records, horse riding, table tennis and animals.

JANE HILDRETH, "Homer," Haddon St., Sutton-in-Ashfield, Notts., would like a pen friend in America, girl, or Australia. Hobbies: playing recorder, reading and roller skating.

LINDA GREEN, 12 Crosslands, Woodville Estate, Barnstaple Devon, would like an English-speaking pen friend from anywhere, aged 10-11. Hobbies: stamp collecting, games and reading.

LAURIE MITCHELL, 33 Buttonball Drive, Sandy Hook, Conn., U.S.A., would like a pen friend in South Dakota or Nebraska. Hobbies: puppetry, dancing, sewing, art, skating and gymnastics.

ANN CRESSWELL, 115 Chestnut Avenue, Spalding, Lincs., wuold like a boy pen friend in America aged 15-16.

IAIN ALLAN, 74 Boness Rd., Grangemouth, Stirling, Scotland, would like to hear from Pelpups living in his area.

STEPHEN SYRETT, 9 Mallow Walk, Partington, Nr. Urmston, Manchester, would like a pen friend in Germany, boy or girl, age 9-10. Hobbies: swimming, model-making and puppetry.

ELAINE EVANS, 90 Court Way, Twickenham, Middlesex, would like a pen friend, preferably boy, in America., France or Switzerland, aged between 13 and 15. Hobbies: Horse-riding and swimming.

PAULA HEDGES, 48 Roestock Lane, Colney Heath, Nr. St. Albans, would like a pen friend from England, France or Italy, aged about 8-12.

SUSAN WIDDOWSON, 83 Spendlow Gardens, Eyres Mansell Estate, Leicester, would like a tape friend, boy or girl. Tape 4 track, speed $3\frac{3}{4}$ in. per second, spool diameter $5\frac{3}{4}$ in. Hobbies: listening to pop records, taping and swimming. Age about 12.

VERONICA HOLMES, 128 Elmstead Avenue, Wembley Park, Middlesex, would like a girl pen friend from England, Germany or Belgium who can write English, aged 10-11. Hobbies: Brownies and reading.

HAZEL SOMERVILLE, 12 Vicarage Close, Salford 6, Lancs., would like a pen friend in Canada, America or Australia, about 10-11, interested in puppetry, reading, swimming and pop stars.

GORDON MACSWEEN, 148 Torbrex Rd., Carbrain, Cumbernauld, Dumbartonshire, would like a pen friend in Canada aged 11-12, interested in stamp collecting, model-making, puppetry.

RODNEY NATFIELD, 74 Meadow Walk, Ewell, Epsom, Surrey, would like to hear from any other Pelpups living in his area, aged 11-13.

LINDA NELSON, 271 Victoria Rd., Gateshead 8, County Durham, would like a pen friend in Japan or America, about 13, English-speaking. Hobbies: stamp collecting, puppetry and Red Cross. She would also like to hear from any Pelpups living near her.

SIMON BIRKETT, Camp View House, Camp View, Winterbourne Down, Nr. Bristol, would like an Australian pen friend, boy aged 9-12, interested in puppetry and swimming.

GAENON OWEN, 1503 High Rd., Whetstone, London, N.20, would like a pen friend in America, Australia, New Zealand or France. Hobbies: horse riding, swimming, skating and animals.

COLIN CLEWS, 45 The Oval, Ouston, Chester-le-Street, Co. Durham, would like a pen friend in Australia, America or Canada. Hobbies: art, drama, puppetry.

LOIS CUTLER, 9 Mason Rd., Southgate, Crawley, Sussex, would like a pen friend anywhere in the world who can speak English. Hobbies are swimming, pop music and puppets.

LINDA GREEVES, "Millside," Meopham Green, Nr. Gravesend, Kent, would like a pen friend anywhere except the British Isles, English speaking, age 13-14, boy or girl. Hobbies: horse riding, swimming, animals and puppets.

JOANNA MONK, 71 Howard Ave., Bexley, Kent, would like a pen friend in Germany or Sweden, 10-11, boy or girl. Hobbies: swimming, cycling, gymnastics, fishing and puppetry.

ALAN HUGHES, 145 Ashmore Grove, Welling, Kent, would like to hear from any Pelpups living near him.

TONIA POWELL, 14 Foley Ave., Tettenhall Wood, Compton, Nr. Wolverhampton, would like a pen friend, English speaking, in any country except England, aged 13. Hobbies: dancing, art, writing, handwork and collecting.

JENNIFER LEWIS, 80 Three Elms Rd., Whitecross, Hereford, would like a pen friend age 9-11, girl, living in France, Spain or America, English speaking, interested in riding, ballet, animals, birds, puppets, cycling, reading and swimming.

JEANETTE HILL, 53a Hednesford St., Cannock, Staffs., would like a pen friend in England or America, aged 11-12. Hobbies: athletics, animals, puppetry and pop music.

BARBARA SAUL, 178 Stourbridge Rd., Bromsgrove, Worcs., would like an English-speaking pen friend living anywhere in the world except England, boy or girl, aged 12-13. Hobbies: swimming, music, reading and writing plays and stories.

HARRY MANSFIELD, Wincott House, Whichford, Nr. Shipston-on-Stour, Warwickshire, would like a pen friend, girl, in France, America or Australia, English speaking, aged 9-10, interested in cycling, reading and collecting pop records.

SUSAN GLOVER, 130, Orbury Rd., Nuneaton, would like a girl pen friend aged 9-11 living in New Zealand, Australia or Isle of Wight. Hobbies: cyclng, reading, roller skating and drawing. Susan would also like to hear from any Pelpups living near her.

BRENDA NEEDS, St. Davids, Apsley Course, Bletchley, Bucks., would like a pen friend in Canada or America, girl or boy, aged 11-13, interested in puppets, reading, pop music, swimming, riding, table tennis and walking.

PETER SOUTHGATE, Woodview, Main Rd., Bicknacre, Nr. Chelmsford, would like to hear from a boy aged 8-10 in Norway or Holland. Hobbies: puppetry and reading.

ANNE KEMP, Stone House, Sherburn Grove, Birkenshaw, Nr. Bradford, would like a 12-13-year-old pen friend in Scotland or Ireland. Hobbes: puppets, horses and riding, wild life and all animals, boating and drawing.

NANCY FARDELINS, 837 S. Granville, Apart. No. 7, Los Angeles 49, California, would like a boy pen friend aged 15-16 from anywhere. Hobbies: shopping, travelling, puppets, day dreaming and walking.

CAROLYNNE PHILLIPS, 50 Disraeli Rd., Forest Gate, London, E.7, would like to hear from any Pelpups living near her as she would like to form a Pelpup theatre group.

ELIZABETH MCALISTER, 138, Kirktonholme Rd., East Kilbride, Lanarks., would like a pen friend aged 11-12 who can write English from America, Canada, Italy or Japan. Interested in reading, stamp collecting, cycling and photography.

SIMON NEEDS, 55 Greenlands, Tattenhall, Nr. Chester, would like a girl pen friend in Denmark who can speak English. Hobbies: swimming, acting, puppetry and music, aged 10-13.

JOYCE HOLLAND, 15 Grantham Rd., Boothtown, Halifax, Yorks., and YVONNE CLAYTON, 35 Claremont Rd., Boothtown, Halifax, would like boy pen friends in America, Canada or Australia, aged 13-14. Hobbies: pop dancing, puppetry, stamp collecting, pop records, swimming and pets.

ALASTAIR M. SCOULLER, 29 North Grange Rd., Bearsden, Dunbartonshire, would like a pen friend in France or a French-speaking country, aged 14-15, interested in many things, but excluding sport and pop music.

CATHY CARSTEN, 22509 Carbon Mesa, Malibu, California, would like a pen friend from anywhere, 15-16, boy. Hobbies: swimming, riding, surfing, puppets, reading, music and travelling.

CHRISTOPHER BELLCHAMBERS,15 Primrose Rd., Old Bradwell, Wolverton, Bucks., would like to know if there are any Pelpups in his area.

COLIN HUDSON, 28 Moore Ave., Tilbury, Essex, would like a pen friend in America or France, aged about 14, boy or girl. Hobbies: puppetry, skating, swimming and bowling.

JANE PENBERTHY, 14 Marlpool Crescent, Exmouth, Devon, would like to hear from any Pelpups living near her.

ANN DONOVAN, 5 Tewin Rd., Leverstock Green, Hemel Hempstead, Herts., would like a girl pen friend aged 11 living in Scotland or France (English-speaking), interested in swimming, puppetry and collecting dolls.

BARBARA WILLIAMS, Pen-y-Bryn Cottage, Bangor, Caernarvonshire, N. Wales, would like a girl pen friend or tape friend aged 12-14, living in Australia, U.S.A. or Italy. Hobbies: swimming, pets and reading. She would also like to hear from any Pelpups living near her.

CATHERINE MAIN, 24 Pugsley St., Newport, Mon., would like a pen friend from America, Switzerland or Australia, boy or girl, aged 11-12, interested in drawing, reading and pets.

CHRISTINE REA, 71 Church Gardens, Smethwick 41, Staffs., would like a girl pen friend living anywhere, about 11-13. Hobbies: ice skating and pop music.

JANE SANDLAND, 31 Balcaskie Rd., Eltham, London, S.E.9, would like to hear from any Pelpups living near her as she would like to start a club.

ANNETTE BOND, Grimwade House, The College, Bishop's Stortford, Herts., would like a pen friend in New Zealand or Australia, girl or boy. Hobbies: puppetry, table tennis, stamp collecting, Girl Guide. Aged 13-15.

BRIAN AMOS, 19 Whingate Grove, Armley, Leeds, 12, would like to know if there are any Pelpups in his area interested in starting a club with him, boys or girls, aged about 14.

GABRIELLE WISZNIEWSKA, Woodlands Park, Mildenhall, Suffolk, would like a boy or girl pen friend living in any country except England, aged 11-13. Hobbies: pets, pop music, table tennis, horse riding and cycling. She would also like to hear from Pelpups living near her.

SARAH LAMBERT, Fairway, Fitzroy Rd., Fleet, Hants., would like a pen friend, English, about 8-10, interested in puppets, riding, Brownies and animals.

ANNE PEARSON, 12 Carsington Crescent, Allestree, Derby, would like a girl pen friend living in America, aged 10, interested in reading, puppetry, roller skating and collecting dolls' house equipment.

MARJORIE HUNNISETT, 47 Fleet St., Aylesbury, Bucks., would like a pen friend, a girl aged 10-12, in America or Canada, or France who can write English. Hobbies: birds, puppetry and drawing.

MARGARET LARKIN, 228 Liverpool Buildings, Highbury Station Rd., Islington, London, N.1, would like to hear from VICKY CONNOLLY, who advertised in the last magazine.

JONATHAN GIBBS, 628, Shirley Rd., Hall Green, Birmingham, 28, would like a pen friend in America or Canada, aged 8-10. Hobbes: Science, reading, collecting and making models and playing the piano.

GILLIAN CROOKSHANK, Rustlewood, Copthorne Rd., Worth, Sussex, would like to hear from any Pelpups living near her.

ANNE SIMS, 18 Fielding Rd., Birstall, Leicester, would like a pen friend, girl or boy, aged 12-13, living anywhere but the British Isles, France, Spain or Italy. Hobbies are swimming, reading and puppets, also judo.

JACQUELINE STUBBS, 3a Shooters Hill Road, Blackheath, London, S.E.3, would like a pen friend in America or Australia, girl, aged about 15, interested in collecting postcards, foreign dolls and stamps, visiting historic buildings and churches, music, reading.

ROSEMARY CHALLIS, 170 Cliff Field Rd., Norton Lees, Sheffield, 8, would like a girl pen friend aged 12-13 in Amercia or Canada. Hobbies: swimming, reading, cycling, pop music and puppetry.

ANNE WILSON, 47 Central Avenue, Balkwell, North Shields, Northumberland, would like a pen friend aged 12-13, interested in athletics, swimming, pop music, modern dancing, puppetry. She would also like to hear from any Pelpups living near her.

ALEX CARNEGIE, P.O. Banket, Rhodesia, would like a pen friend in America, a boy. Hobbies: reading, horse riding, roller skating and puppetry.

ALISON EVANS, 57 Mynydd Newydd Rd., Carneithin, Swansea, would like a pen friend aged 11-12, girl, in Norway, Scotland, Ireland, New Zealand or Holland, speaking English.

SYLVIA CARRIER, 83 Longton Lane, Rainhill, Nr. Liverpool, would like a pen friend in America, boy or girl, about 11-12. Hobbies: puppetry, art and pets.

MONICA HARE, 46 Haddon Drive, Woodley, Reading, Berks., would like a boy or girl pen friend aged about 12, living in Australia, New Zealand, Scotland or Wales, interested in needlework, cookery, swimming and music.

LINDA MORRIS, 82 Hedley Rd., Woodley, Reading, Berks., would like a boy or girl pen friend aged about 12 living in Japan, China, New Zealand or Australia. Interested in needlework, stamp collecting and music.

LUCY WATSON, 20 Warwick Rd., Bishop's Stortford, Herts., would like a French pen friend, aged 12-14. Hobbies: puppetry, swimming, cycling, cooking. She would also like to hear from any Pelpups living near her.

JOHN PEARCE, 810 54th Avenue, Lachine, Quebec, Canada, would like a pen friend about 13 living in U.S.A., Japan or Australia, boy or girl, interested in swimming, reading, science, pop records or puppetry.

ROSEMARY BERWITZ, The Chalet, 27 Mauldeth Rd., Heaton Mersey, Stockport, would like to hear from any English-speaking pen friend from any country, aged 11-12. Hobbies: puppetry, ballet and music.

ANDREW JOHNSON, 217 Lyndhurst Court, Birmingham New Rd., Lanesfield, Nr. Wolverhampton, would like to hear from a boy in his area interested in aeroplanes, cycling and puppetry.

JANE WINDSOR, 75 Hallow Rd., Worcester, would like a pen friend aged between 11-12, interested in most things, from any country but speaking English.

STEPHEN ASHWORTH, 46 Tower Rd., Yeovil, Somerset, would like a pen friend boy, English or French, 11-14 and living anywhere. Interested in swimming, puppetry, reading and science fiction. He would like to hear from any Pelpups living near him.

KAREN MCALPINE, 36 Weltmore Road, Limbury Mead Estate, Luton, Beds., would like a pen friend in France, speaking French, aged about 11-14. Hobbies: singing, athletics, swimming and puppetry.

ROSALIND APPLE, 29 Stag Lane, Edgware, Middlesex, would like a pen friend, boy or girl, aged 11-13, and also to hear from any Pelpups living near her. Hobbies: stamp collecting, swimming and pop music.

DENISE UPHAM, 15 Hammond Close, Horsell, Woking, Surrey, would like a girl pen friend in Canada aged 11-12.

PETER TAYLOR, Bella Vista, Ham Lane South, Llantwit Major, Glam., would like a pen friend in Australia, boy aged 9, interested in making models and puppets.

CHRISTINE SMITH, 46 Jesmond Dene Rd., Jesmond, Newcastle-upon-Tyne 2, would like to contact a pen friend, anywhere, but particularly in Norway, Switzerland or Italy, aged 12-13. Hobbies: swimming, ice skating, needlework, tennis and art.

ELIZABETH NYBURG, 109 Wynacliff Crescent, Toronto 16, Canada, would like a pen friend from England, but not in Staffordshire, a girl aged 9-10. Hobbies: reading, writing, puppetry and drawing.

JACQUELINE HUGHES, Kings Head Hotel, Atherton, Nr. Manchester, would like a pen friend in Holland, Norway or France. Hobbies: swimming, reading and puppetry. Girl aged 8-10.

PAULINE WALSH, 102, Gladstone St., Peterborough, Northants., would like a girl pen friend aged 10-11 living in Amercia. Hobbies: pets, drawing, music, puppetry, drama.

RAYMOND DOVE, 147 Finkle St., Cottingham, would like a pen friend from anywhere in the

world, boy or girl, aged 12-13, speaking English. Hobbies: swimming, puppetry, stamp collecting, games, pop music, drawing.

CAROL CHECKETTS, 14 Wychbury Rd., Pedmore Fields Estate, Stourbridge, Worcs., and her friend JANICE JEOVANS would like a pen friend aged 9-11 from Holland or Germany.

ALISON DUCKWORTH, 12 Eardemont Close, Crayford, would like a pen friend aged 8-10. Hobbies: knitting, reading, music, writing, puppetry.

LINDSAY OWEN, 21 Barkhill Rd., Aigburth, Liverpool, 17, would like a pen friend in France or Switzerland, speaking English, girl aged 9-12. Hobbies: puppetry, swimming, stamp collecting, reading.

JOHN D. THORP, 10 Clifford Manor Rd., Guildford, Surrey, would like to hear of other Pelpups living in Guildford, about 11 years of age.

JANETTE LANGTON, 10 Woodside Ave., Moreton, Wirral, Cheshire, would like a pen friend in Canada aged 10-12. Hobbies: swimming, puppetry and reading.

MALCOLM SCOTT, 14 The Moors, Firs Estate, Birmingham, 36, wants a pen friend in Australia or France, English speaking.

ANTHONY GIBBS, 21 Selby Grove, Birmingham, 14, wants to know if there are any puppet clubs in Birmingham.

CLAUDE ELENEWICH, 5 Park Place, Cranbury, New Jersey 08512, U.S.A., would like to get a letter from a boy or girl in South Vietnam, Indonesia, Syria, Sweden, New Guinea, India, Laos, Thailand, Malaysia. Hobbies: puppetry, carvings, geography, fishing.

PAMELA HALL, 8 Briggs St., Haxby Rd., York, aged 12, would like a pen friend, preferably a girl, whose hobbies are collecting foreign dolls, puppets and stamp collecting, living in America, Australia, New Zealand or Norway.

RUTH ELCOCK, Gay Winds, 49 Lyth Hill Rd., Bayston Hill, Nr. Shrewsbury, would like an English-speaking pen friend in Spain, Switzerland or U.S.A. Hobbies: swimming, sport, puppets and pop music.

LEAH WICKERSON, 37 Cotwallend Rd., The Straits, Lower Gornal, Dudley, Worcs., aged 10, would like a girl pen friend, English speaking, from any foreign country. Hobbies: riding, reading, pets, puppets and climbing.

SUSAN RICHES, 12 Copeman St., Norwich, Norfolk, would like a pen friend in Hollywood, aged 11-13. Hobbies: roller skating, puppetry and art.

JACK KWINTER, 4a Wynn Rd., Willowdale, Ontario, Canada, would like a pen friend from anywhere except Canada. Hobbies: puppetry, comic books, reading.

STEPHEN JOSEPH, 2420 Laurelhurst, University Heights, Cleveland 18, Ohio, U.S.A., would like a pen friend about 12 years old, living in Europe and speaking English. Interested in pets, drama and puppetry.

CINDY COLLINS, 2635 Gordon Drive, Flossmoor, Illinois, U.S.A., would like a pen friend aged 9-11 from any English or German speaking country, a girl. Hobbies: stamp collecting, rock and shell collecting, and piano.

KATHY PARKER, 2714 Lamont Rd., Louiseville, Kentucky 40205, U.S.A., would like a pen friend, girl or boy, from the Netherlands, aged 11-13. Hobbies: ballet, music, Girl Scouts and ice skating.

GEOFFREY WILLIAMS, 9 Harlech Rd., Broadway Estate, Willenhall, Staffs., would like a pen friend anywhere near him in Staffordshire, boy aged 9-10. Hobbies: puppetry, drawing, swimming and reading.

SANDRA PRATT, 3a Garnault Rd., Forty Hill, Enfield, Middlesex, would like a pen friend, girl about 11-12, in Italy speaking English. Hobbies: reading, swimming, collecting national dressed dolls and puppets.

ANNE WILLIAMS, West Acres, Allendale Rd., Hexham, would like an American or English pen friend, boy, aged 11-14, interested in puppets, acting and reading.

RUSSELL BATES, 384 Rossland Road West, Oshawa, Ontario, Canada, would like to find a pen friend from England, aged 14. Hobbies: building models, working puppets and the Arts.

CHRISTINE WEIGHT, 61 Hallowell Rd., Northwood, Middlesex, would like to have a pen friend anywhere in the world. Hobbies: horse riding, animals, puppetry and reading. Aged 11-12.

CAROLE AYNSLEY, 3 Beachcroft Rd., Meols, Wirral, Cheshire, would like a pen friend in America or Australia, boy or girl, aged 13-15. Hobbies: swimming, reading and pop music.

JENNIFER JONES, 23 Grafton Walk, West Kirby, Wirral, Cheshire, would like a pen friend in America, New Zealand or Australia. Hobbies: pops, reading, stamps and puppetry.

LESLEY FAWCETT, 2 Beachcroft Rd., Meols, Wirral, Cheshire, would like a boy or girl pen friend aged 13-15 in America, Canada or Australia. Hobbies: stamp collecting, pop music, puppetry and reading.

DICK NICHOLSON, 689 Gibbon Street, Oshawa, Ontario, Canada, would like a boy pen friend in England, aged about 14, and interested in puppetry and art.

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